

# Mexican Government Suddenly Breaks Diplomatic Relations With Cuba

RED CROSS WORKERS ARE  
URGED TO SPEED UP AND  
PILE UP QUOTA EARLY.

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### WITHOUT WARNING OF ANY CHARACTER MEXICO ENDS CUBAN RELATIONS

### IS POSSIBLE THREAT AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AND MAY SPREAD TO OTHER LATIN-AMERICAN NATIONS

Washington, May 25.—Mexico's sudden and unexpected suspension of diplomatic relations with Cuba is looked upon here as an indirect move against the United States which possibly may foreshadow a breaking of diplomatic relations with this country.

The underlying cause for Mexico's action, it is understood here, was a recent incident in which Senor Fabela, her minister to Argentina, while on his way to Buenos Aires, was held up in Havana while his baggage was searched by an official, supposedly a Cuban customs inspector, who, it is reported, found among the minister's effects certain papers.

From other sources, it is understood that at the time minister Fabela was on his way to Buenos Aires certain exchanges, possibly of a preliminary nature, were under way between Mexico and Argentina, and probably involving another Latin-American government, having for their purpose the development of a certain and uniform attitude in the war.

May Believe U. S. Responsible. If anything taken from Senor Fabela's baggage related to this situation it is unlikely that any disclosure of official secrets will be made at this time, but the feeling here is that Mexico holds the United States really responsible for the incident. Some of those in close touch with the situation and receiving the latest confidential advice lean to the opinion that the break with Cuba possibly foreshadows an extension of a policy of suspended intercourse with the United States.

Confidential reports here from Havana have said that quite outside the Fabela incident well informed persons there expected Mexico might find some pretext to actually suspend diplomatic relations with the United States.

All those who take this view base their opinion on the assumption that German propaganda again is active.

Trouble May Spread. It was said officially that Aguilar's course was unusual and no official could recall a precedent for a suspension of diplomatic relations which was designed to prevent a possible quarrel between two governments.

One of the possibilities of the situation is that suspension of diplomatic relations might also follow below Mexico and Guatemala, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, since all of these countries have declared war upon Germany, and Mexico's relations with them are similar to those she has had with Cuba. It was not believed the Mexican government would extend such action to the United States, which is at war with Germany, and which has adopted measures that affect Mexican trade. Some friction has arisen over the actions of the American and British consular officers at Guaymas, in seeking to enforce provisions of the American black list.

Washington, May 25.—Washington officials were frankly puzzled today over the circumstances surrounding Mexico's reported break in relations with Cuba. The state department learned through its own sources of Mexico's recall of her charge d'affaires at Havana, but had no details.

There was little explanation here of the reasons prompting the Mexican move, and it was not clear to officials just what Mexico hoped to accomplish.

A first reading of the statement issued by Foreign Minister Aguilar in Mexico City giving the reasons for the recall of the Mexican charge to Cuba conveyed to officials here the distinct impression that in breaking off relations the Mexican government actually is expressing its displeasure and resentment at the withholding of Cuban sugar and other supplies.

The fact that these restrictive measures were adopted by the Cuban government in conformity with the requests of the American food administration, and in pursuance of

the general policy of the entente allies and America of maintaining absolute control of shipping in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea doubtless was known to the Mexican authorities.

More Drastic Move Expected. As Mexico cannot expect to make any successful protest to the allies or to the United States against these restrictions, officials believe she has had recourse to the plan of bringing pressure to bear directly upon Cuba, and it was believed this first step, involving the severance of diplomatic relations, would be followed by retaliatory measures of an economic nature.

Among the measures would be the prohibition of the exportation to Cuba of food supplies, such as beans and corn, largely consumed in Cuba. It also was regarded as possible that an effort would be made to stop the exportation of Mexican petroleum to the island, though it might be difficult to separate such exports from the vast amount of oil that is shipped from Tampico to the United States and Europe for naval uses.

Fuel Oil Supply Threatened. Interference with this oil supply might easily lead to serious trouble between Mexico and the entente allies and America. It is a naval necessity that this source of fuel supply be maintained during the continuance of the war; and while there is no disposition to refuse payment of all reasonable taxation on the exports of oil, a stoppage of shipments to the naval forces would bring immediate and vigorous protests.

Officials are unwilling to discuss at this stage the possible effect upon relations between Mexico and the United States of Mexico's break with Cuba. As Cuba is in all but name an ally of the United States, any action even by a neutral government directed against her must be a matter of serious concern to the United States.

Situation Is Peculiar. While the almost invariable rule of international law is that a breach of diplomatic relations is followed by actual war between the parties, the present situation is peculiar, and there are lacking entirely these elements of personal offense and asperity that makes hostilities inevitable in such cases.

In fact, one high official after reading Minister Aguilar's statement

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### Law Violators and the Army

The induction of certain men, against whom criminal charges were pending, into army service with the agreement that their cases would be dismissed providing their record in service is satisfactory, has occasioned considerable speculation and the expression of alarm at what might result by the impression gaining credence, that such action would be taken in the cases of men likely to go into service who might get the idea that prosecution would not be made if they committed crime.

If the impression has been created that this rule will apply to others than those against whom cases have been pending for offenses previous to a man's call to service, the public has misconstrued the rule. No man whose case does not present mitigating circumstances and whose previous record has not been good can hope for consideration.

W. F. Freeman, judge of the district court, was emphatic in his statement today that such criticism is without justification. "It is the intention of this court to perform his duty and mete out fit punishment for crime. No man who commits a crime with the hope of escaping punishment by entering the army will receive consideration. There will be no release to army service except in cases of lesser degrees of crime, rigid investigation of which shows the offender is not a man of bad record, that there are mitigating circumstances and the person so released from punishment will not only not contaminate others in service, but will be of real value to his country. Men of previous good character accused of crimes of slight degree, who have not committed them with the hope or expectation of escaping punishment, should be permitted to fight.

"Violators of the law will find no excuse in the statement that they want to go to the army unless their cases fit the fixed policy of the court. Pending cases, which bear rigid investigation, and square with the rule given above, providing the crime charged is of slight degree, will receive consideration."

The moral atmosphere of the service is such that it has been repeatedly stated that incorrigibles and dangerous men will not be accepted for service. The selected man is entitled to the privilege of associating with men of like good character, and it is the policy of the service to segregate men who do go into the service if they do not measure up to its standards.

### Grain Harvest Begins

Fort Worth, Texas, May 25.—The harvesting of the 1918 wheat crop began in America yesterday—in parts of Denton, Cooke and Wise counties. The new grain is from the rich bottom lands where maturity of the grain is faster than on the prairies.

expressed the opinion that the present status was not actually equivalent to a complete breach of relations, as was indicated by the cordial tone of the statement, and the expressed desire to maintain unbroken the "fraternal sentiments of solidarity," which have bound Cuba and other Latin-American countries. It also was considered worthy of note that Aguilar said it was the purpose of avoiding creation of "tension in our relations" that inspired his action.

### MEXICO ISSUES STATEMENT AS TO CAUSE OF BREAK

Wont Be Dictated to During Cuba's Period in War.

Mexico City, Friday, May 24.—Mexico has severed diplomatic relations with Cuba. This was learned officially late today after a report that the Mexican charge d'affaires at Havana and the Cuban minister here had been recalled from their respective posts had been confirmed at the foreign office.

The recall of the Mexican representative to Cuba and the suspending for an indefinite time of the sending of a new representative is explained officially as due to the fact that because of the war in which Cuba is involved, Cuba has been obliged to dictate measures that affect the interests of the Mexican government in many instances.

For this reason, it is declared, the making of representations that the Mexican representative would be forced to make to the Cuban government would be useless and would restrict the liberty of action of a friendly nation, "which is now in an afflicted situation."

Here Is Mexico's Statement. General Candido Aguilar, minister of foreign affairs, tonight gave out a statement for the announced purpose of "avoiding a misinterpretation" of Mexico's action. The statement follows:

"The president of the republic and the cabinet at a special meeting has decided that it was an imperative necessity to recall the Mexican diplomatic representative to Cuba and to suspend for an indefinite period

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### WEATHER FORECAST

For Ardmore and Vicinity:  
Tonight, generally fair. Sunday, probably fair; cooler.  
Oklahoma: Tonight, generally fair; cooler in northwest portion. Sunday, probably fair; cooler.  
East Texas: Tonight and Sunday, partly cloudy.  
West Texas: Tonight, partly cloudy; cooler in Panhandle. Sunday, probably fair; cooler in north portion.

Local Temperature.  
Maximum temperature yesterday, 90 degrees; minimum last night, 71.

### AMERICANS SHOOT DOWN TWO PLANES

(By the Associated Press.)  
With the American Army in France, May 24.—American aviators shot down two German airplanes last Tuesday, says the official statement from American headquarters tonight. The text read:  
"There are no new developments to report. It is established our aviators shot down two hostile airplanes May 21."

With the American Army in France, May 24.—An American aerial pursuit squadron is now operating over the American sector northwest of Toul, it is now permitted to announce. All the pilots whose air exploits have been recorded up to this time belong to this squadron, which has a special insignia. The squadron is flying in Nieuport chasing machines.

### EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS PROBABLE

BULLETIN.  
Washington, May 25.—Although congress had prepared to pass new revenue legislation before adjournment, it appeared today that an agreement would be reached to postpone action and that a special session might be called after the November elections.

### NATIONAL GUARD EXAMINATIONS TONIGHT

Dr. Walter H. Hardy will continue examination of enlisted men of the new National Guard company tonight. Guardsmen are urged to be at the county courtroom promptly at 7 o'clock.  
To date 101 men have been accepted and only 15 have failed to pass the physical examination.

### NEWS BULLETINS

Washington, May 25.—Full strength of the army, including National Army, National Guard and man dent of the house military committee announced today in its regular now is 2,000,000 men. Chair report on the army appropriation bill. "While it has been generally rumored that we have no airship with our army in France, the fact is that we have between 1,300 and 1,400 of them, at least 200 of which are fighting machines," the report says.

Washington, May 25.—The army bill, carrying direct appropriations of \$9,583,349,808 and authorizations amounting to \$2,438,332,801, was reported to the house today by the military committee. House leaders planned to begin its consideration Monday.

Alexandria, La., May 25.—Four thousand pieces of winter clothing belonging to troops stationed at Camp Beauregard were almost totally destroyed by fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin, which wrecked a warehouse in this city early today. Two explosions occurred.

London, May 25.—Fishermen returning to port today brought reports that 13 German sailors have been sentenced to death and two for imprisonment for 20 years by a German court martial for attempted treason in connection with the recent British naval raids against the German submarine bases at Ostend and Zeebrugge. These reports are based on information said to have come from Bruges, Belgium.

Washington, May 25.—To check speculation in chartering space for coffee imports, which has driven the rates to four and five times their normal, the war trade board today suspended all licenses for importation of coffee and will renew them only on proof that they are being used under chartering rates as fixed by the shipping board.

### Long Intrigue Against Britain by Sinn Fein and Hun Laid Bare

ENGLAND WAS TO HAVE BEEN INVADIED BY GERMAN ARMY AND PEOPLE OF IRELAND, ARMED WITH GERMAN GUNS, WERE TO HAVE BROUGHT ON REBELLION AT SAME TIME—PLOT WAS INCUBATED THROUGH AMERICA, WITH VON BERNSTORFF AS CHIEF AGENT.

Washington, May 25.—More evidence than that disclosed in the British official statement of the close connections between the Irish Sinn Fein and German influence in the hands of the British and American governments, it was stated officially here today.

Arrests are to be made soon in this country and possibly additional arrests in Ireland.

London, May 25.—Germany's untiring efforts to foment revolution in Ireland with the aid of the Sinn Fein are laid bare in a statement from the official press bureau, reviewing this phase of the Irish political situation since the beginning of the war.

After the abortive revolution of Easter week of 1916, plans were made for a revolt in 1917, but this miscarried because of America's entry into the war and Germany's inability to send troops to Ireland. An uprising in Ireland was planned for this year after the German offensive in the west had been successful and when Great Britain presumably would be stripped of troops.

Concerning the recent arrests in Ireland, the statement says that facts and documents, for obvious reasons, cannot be disclosed at this time nor can the means of communication between Germany and Ireland.

One phase of every plan called for the establishment of submarine bases in Ireland. In the present circumstances, it is added, no other course was open to the government, "if useless bloodshed was to be avoided and its duties to its allies fulfilled, but to intern the authors and abettors of this criminal intrigue."

### Text of Official Statement.

The statement of the press bureau follows:  
"The revolutionary movement in Ireland which culminated in the arrest of a considerable number of persons last week consisted of two closely related series of activities, (a) Attempts by the German government to foment rebellion in Ireland, and (b) preparations made in Ireland to carry these attempts into action."

"The story of the active connection between the leaders of the Sinn Fein movement and the Germans, as disclosed by documents in possession of the British government, falls into two parts—the period prior to, and the period since the abortive Irish rebellion of Easter, 1916."

"The events of the first period can be told in some detail, but the second period which concerns recent events permits of no more than a summary, as a full statement of the facts and documents in possession of the government would disclose the names of the persons who stood by the government and also the channels of communication through which the German government was acting, and which it would not be in the public interest to reveal at present."

### Begins Nov. 6, 1914.

"The story begins as early in the war as Nov. 6, 1914, when through Count Von Bernstorff a message from Sir Peter Casement (later captured in Ireland and executed) asking that a messenger, a native-born American, if possible, be sent to Ireland with word that everything was favorable. He was to carry no letter for fear of arrest. Casement also asked that an Irish priest should be sent to Germany with the assistance of the German legation in Norway to work in prison camps to corrupt Irish prisoners of war. This priest was a certain Father John T. Nicholson, an American citizen of Irish birth. He reached Germany safely and we find him in January, 1915, transmitting messages to America."

"According to a report to Captain Von Papen (German military attaché in Washington) dated Dec. 5, 1914, verbal assurances were sent in response to Casement's request that an excellent impression had been produced in Ireland. In the beginning of 1916 the plot ripened, and on Feb. 10 of that year, Count Von Bernstorff sent to a covering address in Rotterdam a dispatch signed with the name of Skel, one of his principal American agents."

Irish Leaders Grow Uneasy.  
"The dispatch included an extract from the report of John Devoy, head of the Clan-Na-Gael, to the

effect that action in Ireland could not be postponed much longer since he feared arrest of the leaders. It had been decided, he said, to begin action on Easter Saturday, and he urged that arms and munitions be in Limerick by that date.

"Later in the same month, Von Bernstorff, following his usual practice, surreptitiously attached to a message to Berlin passed by the American government, a note fixing Easter Saturday for the rising and urging the despatch of munitions in time. On March 4, Von Jagow, (German foreign minister) replied that the arms would be landed in Tralee bay, and asked that the necessary arrangements be made in Ireland through Devoy. March 14, Von Bernstorff replied that the Irish agreed and that full details were being sent to Ireland by messenger.

"The next day, Von Bernstorff telegraphed the code to be used between the Germans and the rebels while the arms were in transit, and explained that a submarine might safely enter Dublin bay and go as far as Pigeon House without encountering nets.

Special Sneak Code.  
"On March 26, Von Jagow replied that the arms would be sent and that a special code word would be used every night as the introduction to the German wireless press service. In a message from Von Bernstorff to Berlin the Germans were assured that there were numerous private wireless receiving stations in Ireland."

"On April 18 and April 19 urgent messages were sent from America to Berlin fixing the delivery of arms for the evening of Easter Sunday, pressing for the landing of German troops and asking for an air raid on England and a naval attack on the English coast. These attacks actually took place between April 24 and 26."

"It was declared to be the hope of the rebels and their German and American friends to blockade the Irish ports against England and establish bases in Ireland for German submarines."

"The rebellion broke out a day later than scheduled, on Easter Monday, April 24, but as the world is aware, German support miscarried and it ended in a complete failure."

### Royal Commission Report.

"The report of the royal commission on the rebellion in Ireland states:  
"It is now a matter of common notoriety that the Irish volunteers had been in communication with the authorities in Germany and were for a long time known to have been supplied with money through Irish-American societies. This was so stated in public by John Macneil (former president of the Sinn Fein) on Nov. 8, 1914. It was suspected long before the outbreak that some of the money came from German sources."

"The evidence on this subject in possession of the British government provides the clearest proof of these suspicions.  
"It became clear very soon after the uprising that the Sinn Fein leaders again were asking Germany for help. On June 17 there was a message from Berlin to Washington referring to 'A-29 of May 6,' a message which is missing, and saying that Germany was perfectly ready to give further help if the Irish only would say what sort of help they required."

More Bernstorff Perfidy.  
"June 26, Von Bernstorff already had sent a dispatch giving an account of the rebellion in Ireland."

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### RED CROSS WAR FUND PASSES \$100,000,000

BULLETIN.  
Washington, May 25.—The Red Cross second war fund today reached and passed the \$100,000,000 minimum total mark and telegrams announcing subscriptions continued to flow into national headquarters at a rate that swamped the compilers. The exact figures could not be determined by the officers, who expressed hope that the fund minimum would be doubled before this drive ends.

### 3 OKLAHOMANS PERISH WITH 50 OTHER AMERICANS WHEN SHIP SINKS

TWO TEXANS ALSO GO DOWN  
ON ILL-FATED STEAMER  
MOLDAVIA.

### VESSEL SUNK BY TORPEDO

Without Warning the Trooper Was Hit at Night as She Was Under Way—Full List of Names of Missing Is Given Out.

BULLETIN.  
Washington, May 25.—The Moldavia carried 480 American soldiers of the Fifty-eighth infantry. All those reported lost belonged to Company B.

Oklahomans included in the list are Private Oscar O. Armstrong, Bridgeport; Andrew Blackwell, Hominy; Virgil C. Cook, Hobart.

Texans are: Herman W. Dierks, New Braunfels; Clem Johnson, Martin's Mill.

Washington, May 25.—With the exception of 53 American soldiers, all the persons on board the British ship Moldavia, which was torpedoed and sunk Thursday morning, were saved and have been landed at a southern British port. No officers' names are among the list of missing and it contains the names of only two non-commissioned officers.

Washington, May 25.—The war department today gave out the names of 53 members of Company B, 58th United States infantry, fourth division, missing from the torpedoed British steamer Moldavia.

London, May 25.—Less than 15 minutes after the British armed merchant troopship Moldavia, with American troops on board, had been torpedoed off the southeast coast of England on Thursday morning, virtually every man had gone over the sides of the vessel into the lifeboats.

Edwin and Clyde Bosley of North Troy, N.Y., leaped from the deck and were drowned. Had it not been for this the losses would have been confined to those killed by the explosion of the torpedo. The Bosley brothers were on guard when the ship was struck. Search was made for them, but they were not seen after the jumped overboard.

The list also includes Frank O'Dell, Blytheville, Ark.

There are only two men from southeastern states listed among the missing.

### List of Missing.

The list of Americans missing follows:  
Corps, Fred Chappell, Philadelphia; Roy H. Shank, Lancaster, Pa.; Privates Oscar O. Armstrong, Bridgeport, Okla.; Andrew Blackwell, Hominy, Okla.; George D. Boosalis, Fargo, N. D.; Clyde E. Bosley, North Troy, N.Y.; Erwin E. Bosley, North Troy, N.Y.; Leslie Bracken, Fovallton, Minn.; Walter G. Bracken, St. Cloud, Minn.; William A. Brown, Hoytsville, Utah; George N. Buchanan, Manette, Wis.; Emil Bucher, El Centro, Cal.; Joseph P. Cullen, Milwaukee, Wis.; Fred D. Caswell, Fall River, Mass.; Louis V. Castro, San Jose, Cal.; Edwin L. Clausing, Granton, Wis.; Virgil C. Cook, Hobart, Okla.; William G. Crook, Port Washington, Wisconsin; Herman Diehl, New York City; Herman W. Dierks, New Braunfels, Texas; Conrad Eckel, West Abis, Wis.; Fred Gearhardt, Chicago; Edward L. Gerl, Manitowish, Wis.; Redwald Gottenberg, Pigeon Falls, Wis.; Giuseppe Grace, Litari, Sicily; Charles F. Hackler, Millville, Cal.; Thaddeus Hodges, Mount Carmel, Utah; Clem Johnson, Martins Mill, Texas; Isado M. Keip, St. Paul, Minn.; John Kobus, South Milwaukee, Wis.; Henry C. Lading, Strasburg, Ill.; John S. Larsen, Chicago; Barney R. Williams, Dixon, Ky.; Frank Lewandowski, Chicago; Clyde B. Lindsey, Chicksburg, Miss.; Anton W. Lundell, South Chicago, Ill.; James G. McCarthy, Boston, Mass.; Frank McKinney, Stonington, Ill.; Jesse Mars Shelbyville, Ill.; Rudolph Mickle, De Pere, Wis.; Jesse Milone, Olney, Ill.; Frank Odell, Blytheville, Ark.; Emil J. Bosh, Laikin S. D.; Frank Roux, Rice Lake, Wis.; Lee Reaser, Cedarville, W. Va.; Walter B. Sautter, New Hartford, N. Y.; Jno. Schuch, Portsmouth, Ohio; Joseph Sherman, Fort Totten, N. D.; Lewis P. Spies, N.

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